

Little Sugar Creek Greenway & Stream Enhancement

I-485 to Polk Historic Site
Polk Historic Site to South Carolina State Line

What is a Greenway?





- Active Transportation
- Linear Public Park
- Recreation
- Health and Fitness
- Desirable Amenity
- Access to Destinations
- Creates a Sense of Community
- County standard is a minimum 10'-12' wide asphalt trail conforming to AASHTO and ADA for recreational trails.
- 47 miles are complete and open
- Mecklenburg County Greenway Plan currently calls for over 200 miles.

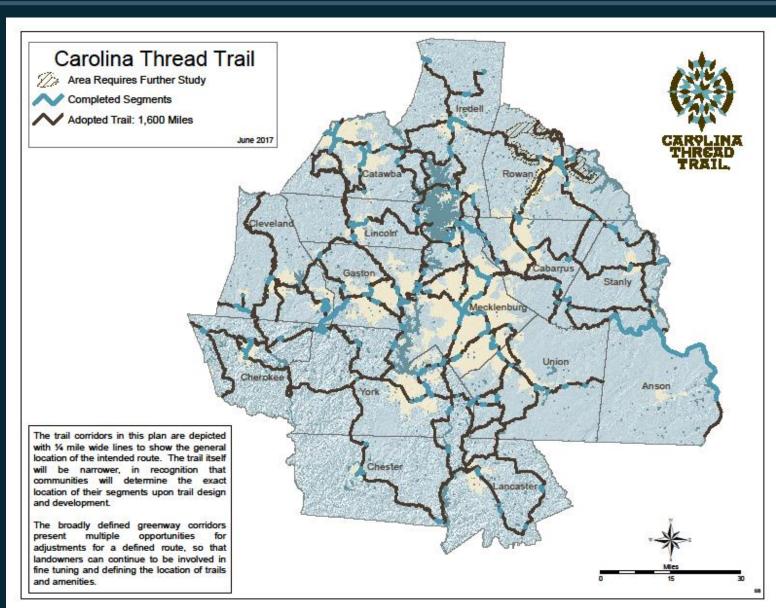


Carolina Thread Trail





- Regional trail network covering 15 counties in North and South Carolina
- Will link 2.3 million people with 1,500 miles of trail when complete
- 260 miles of trail and 170 miles of blueways currently open to the public
- www.carolinathreadtrail.org



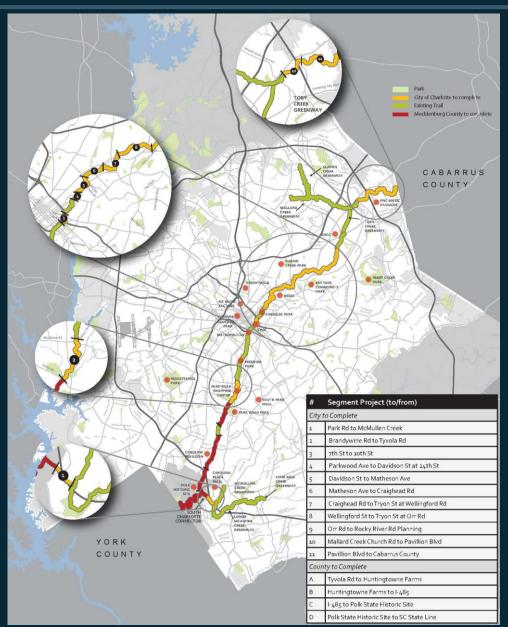
Cross Charlotte Trail





- Seamless pathway across the City and County
- Separated from roads as much as possible
- Over 30 miles of connected trails and greenways
- Connects 140,000 residents and 130,000 jobs

http://charlottefuture.com/XCLT



Little Sugar Creek Stream Enhancement





Stream & Wetland Restoration Projects improve water quality and aquatic life by reducing erosion and restoring habitat in streams, floodplains and wetlands

- Charlotte-Mecklenburg Storm Water Services collects a Storm Water Fee and is responsible for maintenance on the drainage infrastructure
- Mecklenburg County is responsible for the FEMA Streams (streams that drain a square mile or more) One of the components of the maintenance program is to restore damaged and degraded stream channels
 - Stop erosion and property loss
 - Improve Aquatic Ecosystem
- County Stream Restoration Program



Little Sugar Creek Stream Enhancement Recreation The March and Recreation The March and Recreation The March and Plane

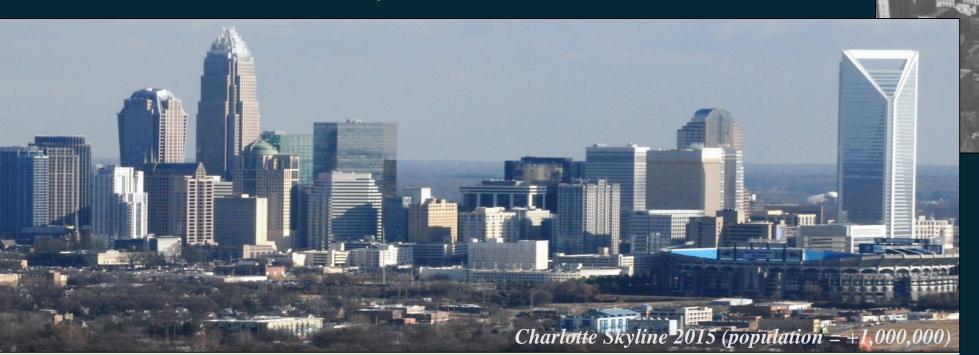




Charlotte Skyline 1973 (population = 354,656

Over the Past 40 Years in Mecklenburg County water quality has been degraded by rapid growth.

- Population has more than **doubled** (Our population density is at 1,933 persons/square mile, which is 10 times the average density for the rest of the State)
- > Pollution sources have **tripled**



Little Sugar Creek Stream Enhancement







Whitley Water Mill on Long Creek in Charlotte – circa 1900
By 1800, mills could be found on almost all the streams in
Mecklenburg County with year-round flow. These mills and the
waters they bordered became the focal point of early
development.



Swimming hole in Long Creek in Charlotte – circa 1910



Ladies fishing in Little Sugar Creek in Charlotte – circa 1890

Little Sugar Creek Stream Enhancement





In the 1920's almost all streams in Mecklenburg County were straightened to facilitate drainage, control malaria and drain wetlands to facilitate agriculture

- Steam shovels cut a straight 'ditch' in place of a meandering stream and piled the spoils atop the banks
- This worked at the time, however with increasing development came increasing stream flow, which began to eat away at the 'ditch' that was created

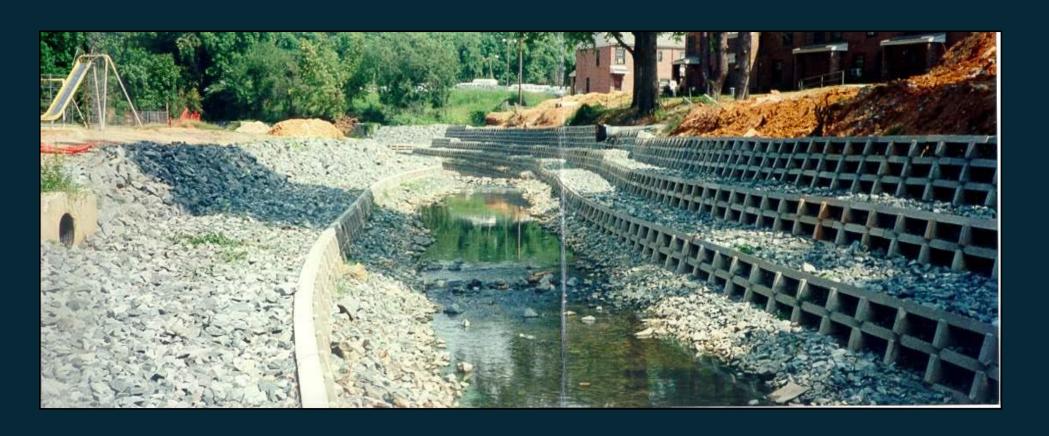


Little Sugar Creek Stream Enhancement And Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation The National Place.





In the 70's and 80's



Little Sugar Creek Stream Enhancement





Now - stability with habitat

- Natural Channel Design -Accelerating mother nature
 - Change the shape and location of the channel
 - Using vegetation in place of rock
 - Rock still used in strategic locations











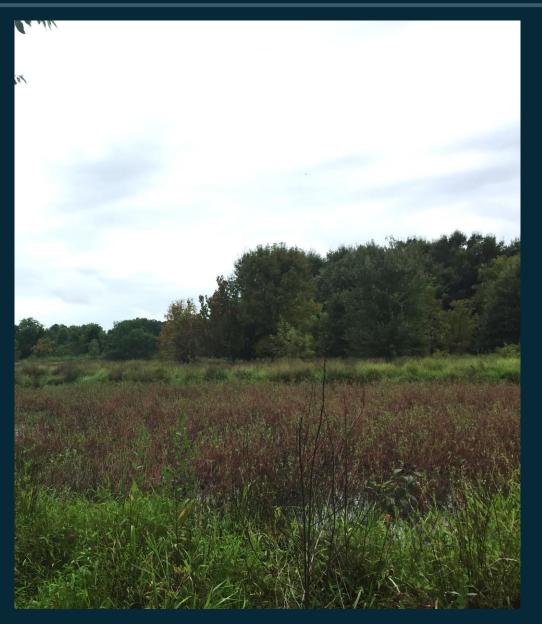


- A master plan was prepared for Little Sugar Creek Greenway in 2004.
- Little Sugar Creek Greenway is part of the 2015 Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation Master Plan Update adopted by the Board of County Commissioners.
- Little Sugar Creek Greenway has been adopted as part of the Carolina Thread Trail network and the Cross Charlotte Trail.





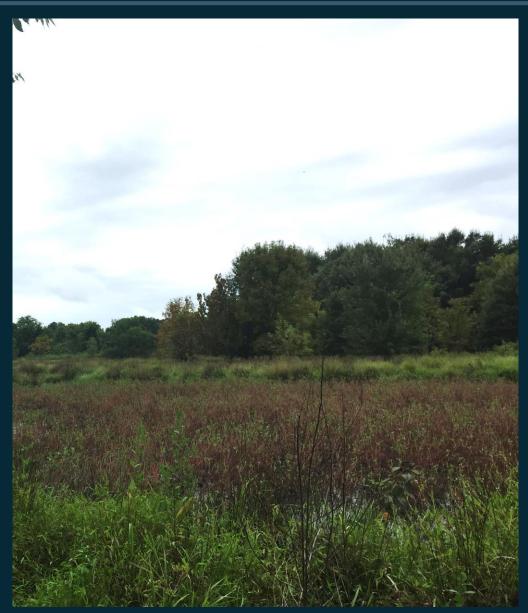
- Land acquisition and early planning began in Fall 2015
- Divided project into two segments:
 - I-485 to Polk Historic Site (includes South Charlotte Connector)
 - Polk Historic Site to South Carolina State Line







- Current Charlotte Water sanitary sewer project to be completed Spring 2018
- Public Information Session: Thursday,
 October 26, 2017
- Complete design, permit and bid project
- Begin construction in Spring/Summer
 2018.
- Anticipate 12-18 months to complete (complete Fall/Winter 2019)



Process



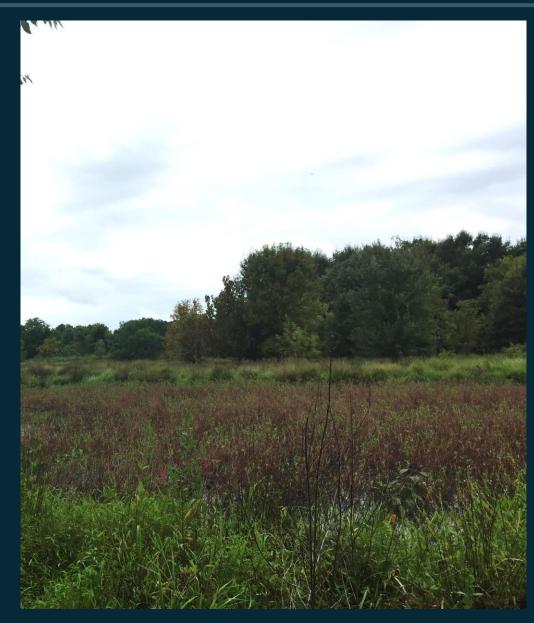


Little Sugar Creek Greenway & Stream Enhancement

1-485 to Polk Historic Site

LandDesign and Wildlands

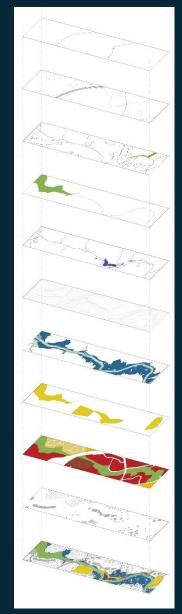
Project Overview











PUBLIC TRANSIT

AUTOMOBILE NETWORK

UTILITIES

PARKS +
GREENWAYS

STREAMS + WETLANDS

TOPOGRAPHY

FLOODPLAIN + SWIM + FLOODWAY

PUBLICLY OWNED LAND

LAND USE

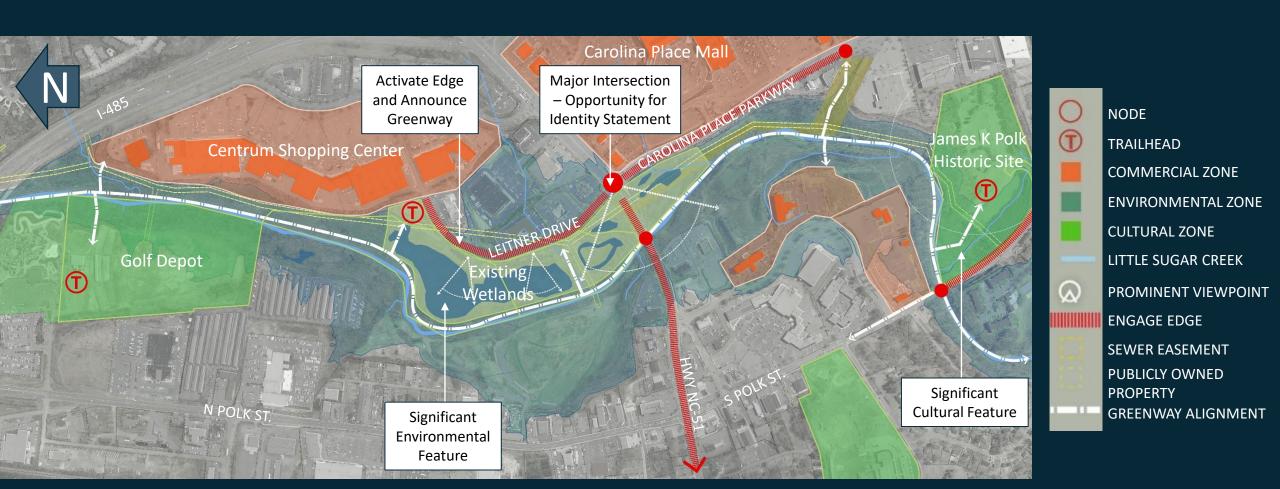
BUILT ENVIRONMENT

COMPOSITE

Overall Site Analysis LandDesign.







Overall Site Analysis LandDesign.

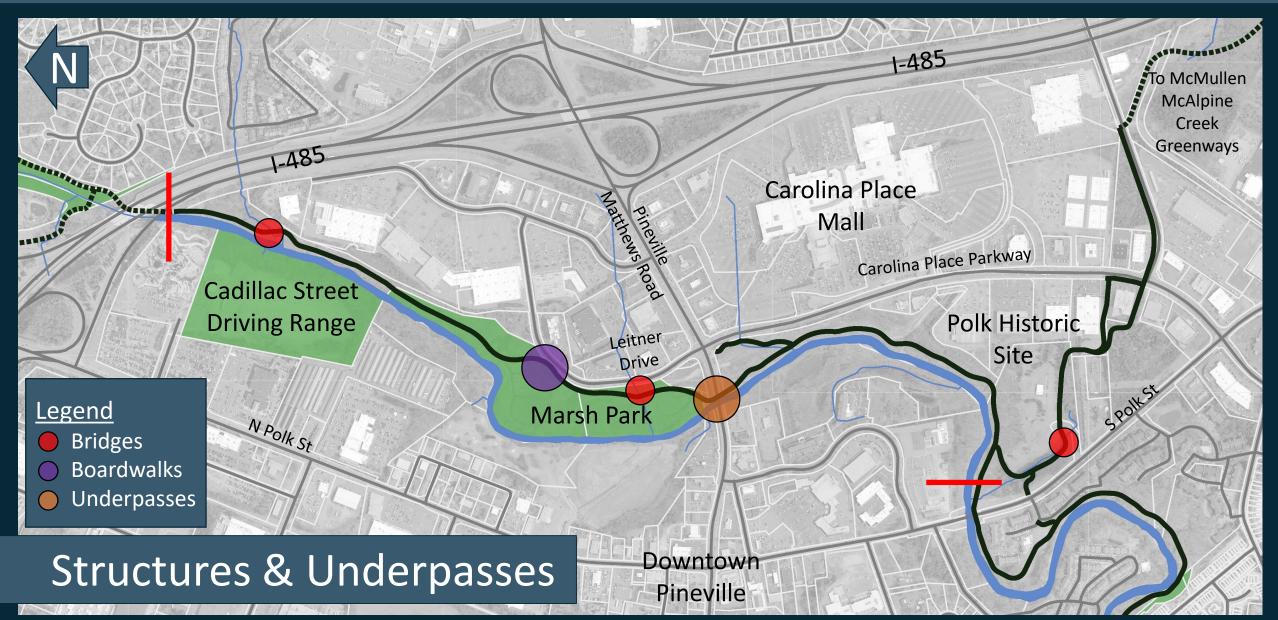






























Marsh Park Design Visuals LandDesign.







Marsh Park Design Visuals LandDesign.







Marsh Park Design Visuals LandDesign.























Stream Enhancement









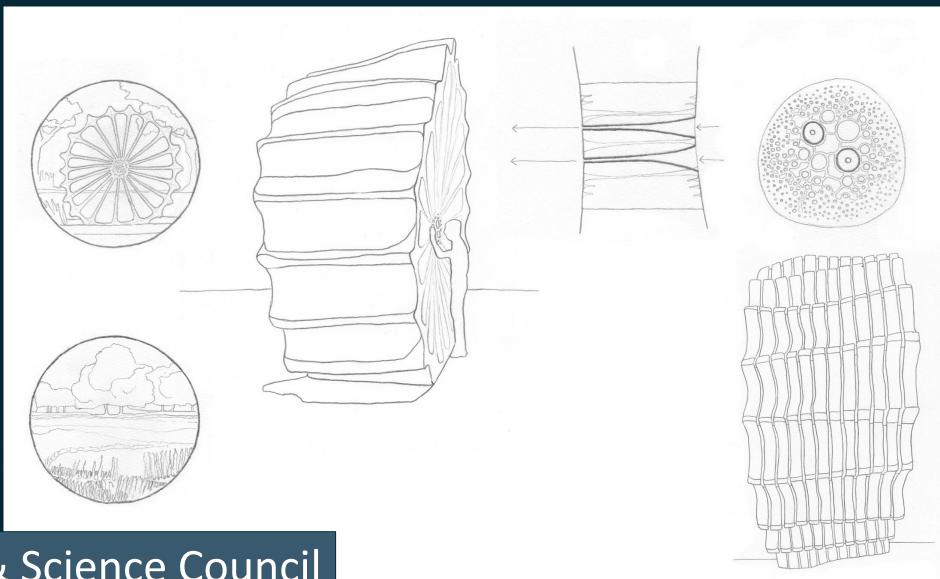












Arts & Science Council





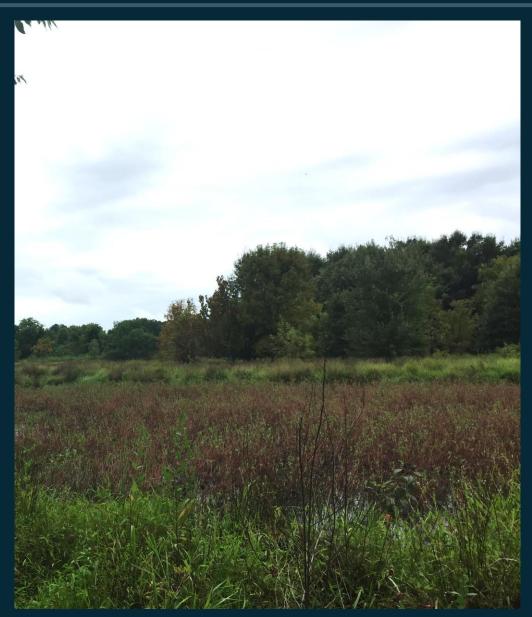


Little Sugar Creek Greenway & Stream Enhancement

Polk Historic Site to
South Carolina State Line

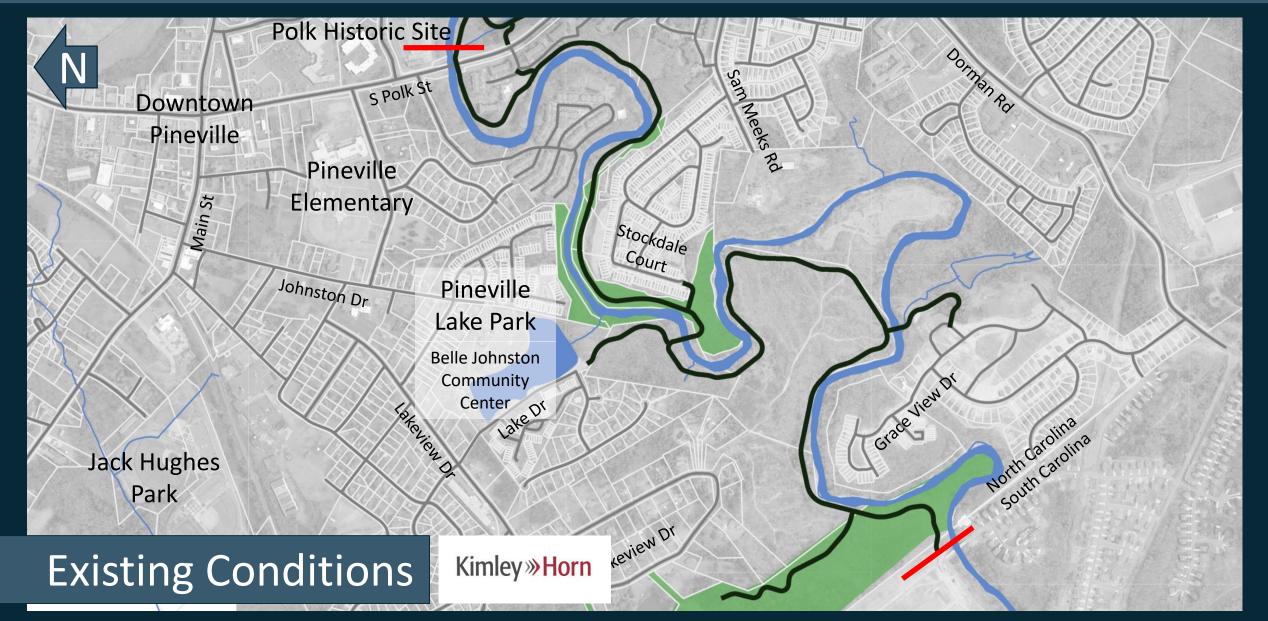
Kimley Horn

Project Overview



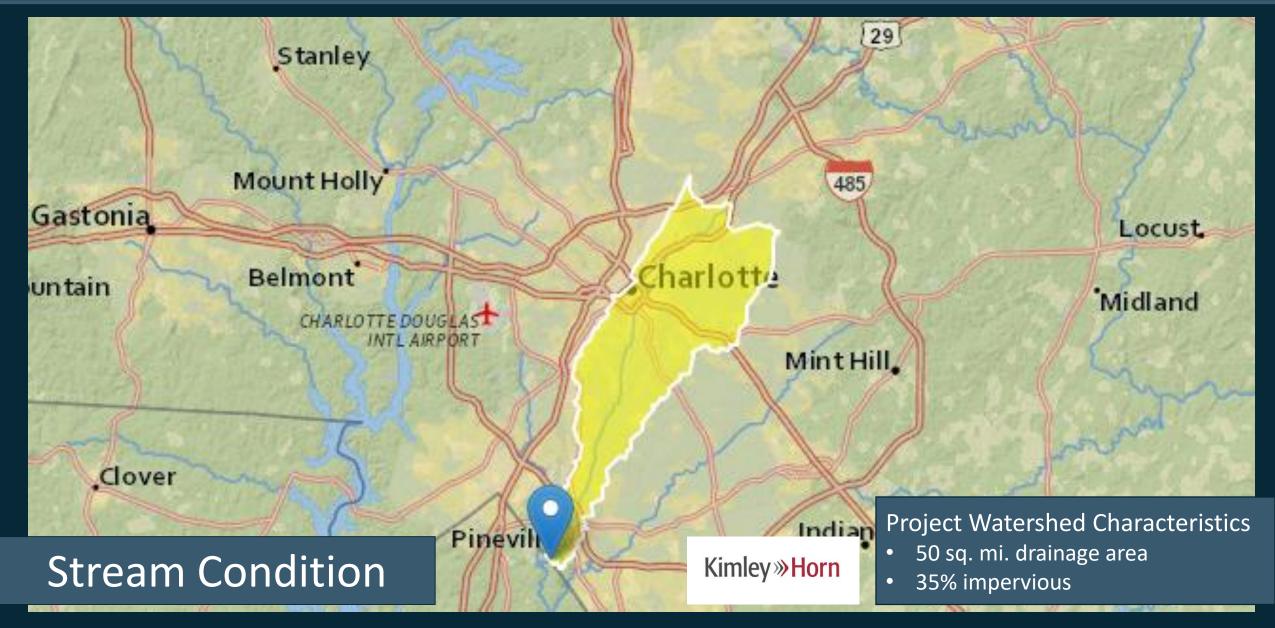






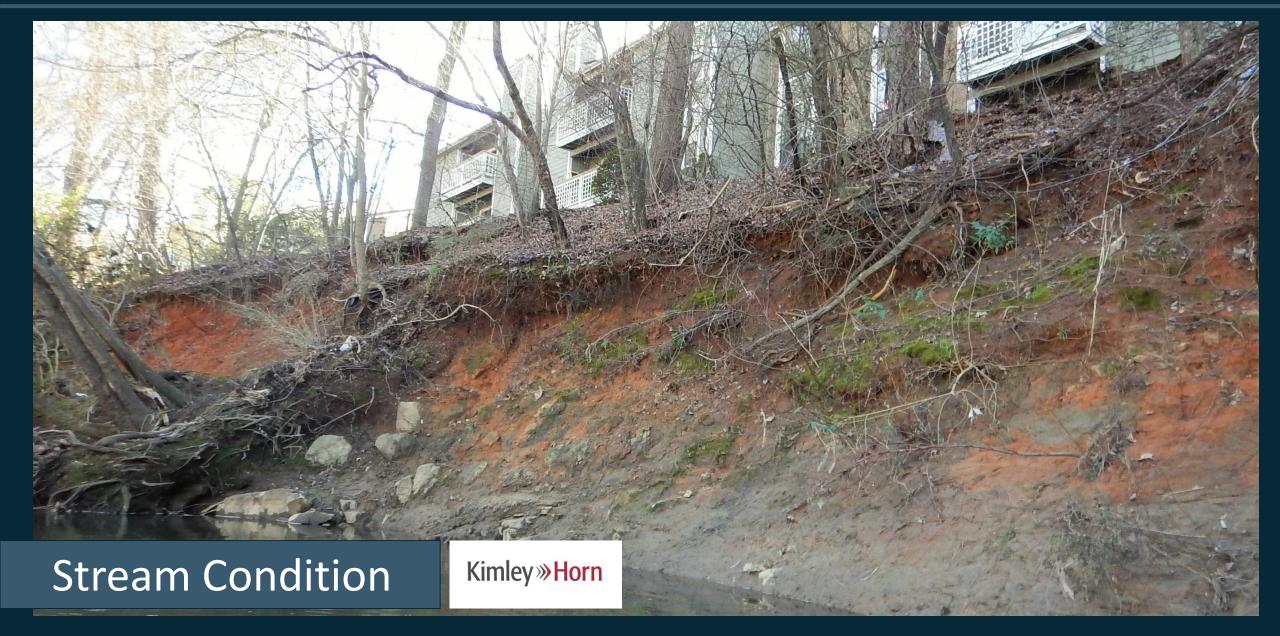






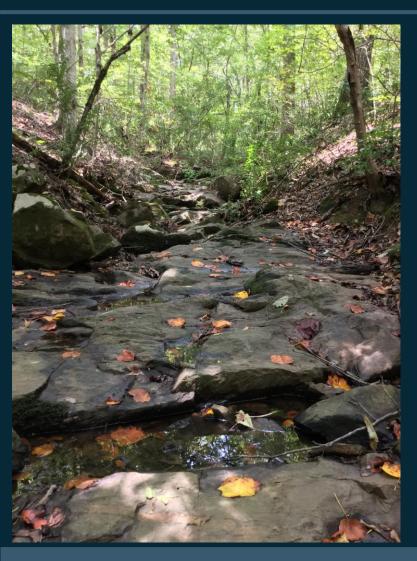






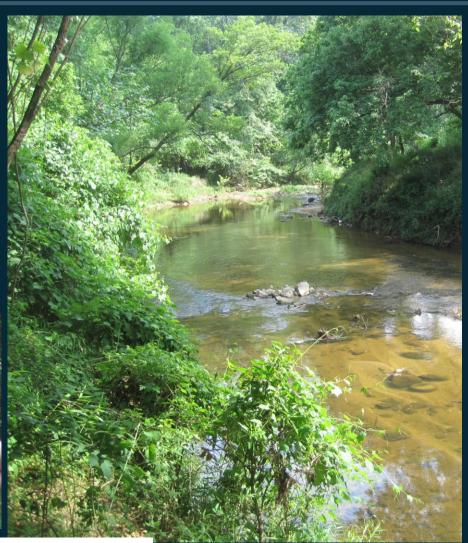










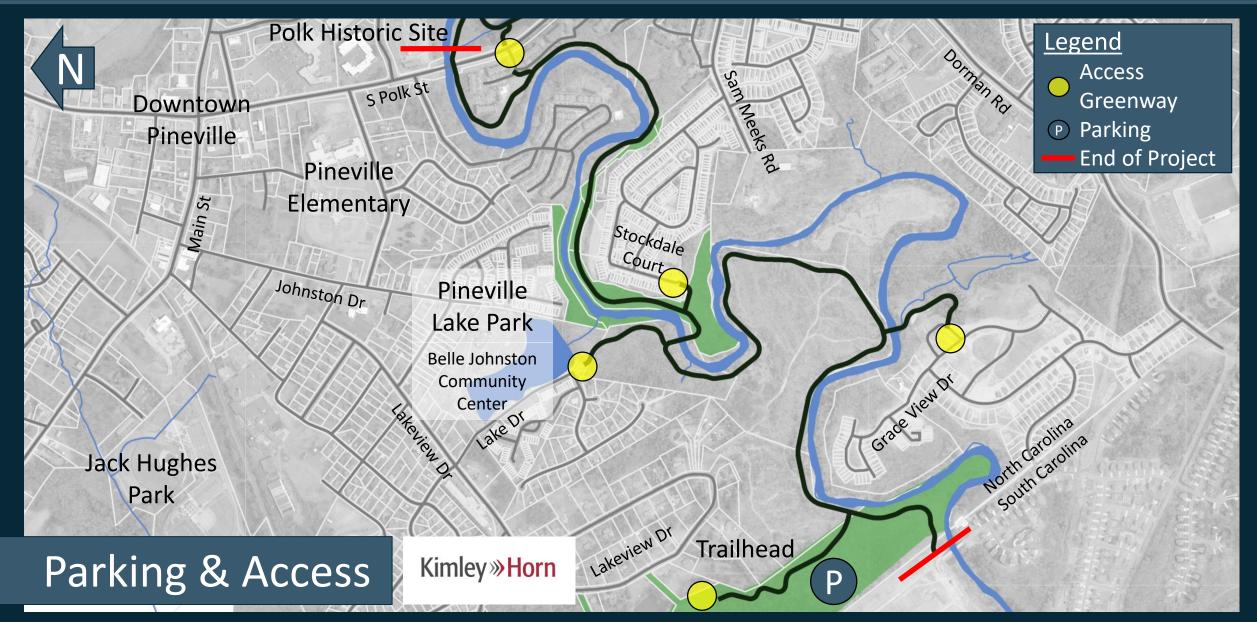


Existing Conditions along Greenway

Kimley » Horn

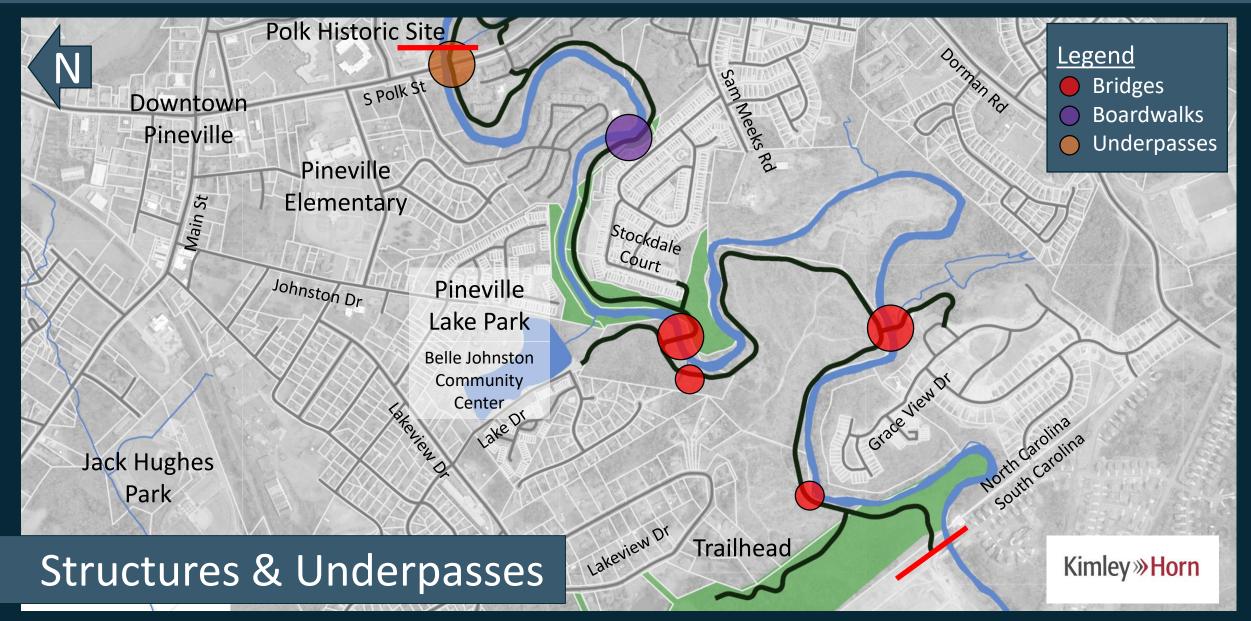
























Structures & Underpasses

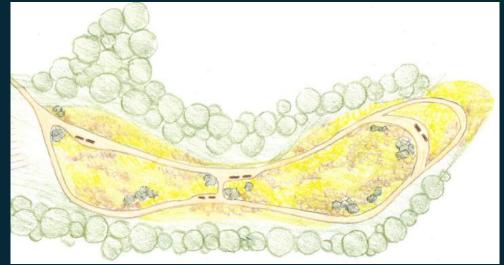






Proposed Improvements

- 50 Spaces
- Bio-retention Pond
- Wayfinding, Benches, Bike Racks
- Natural Surface/Planting Area

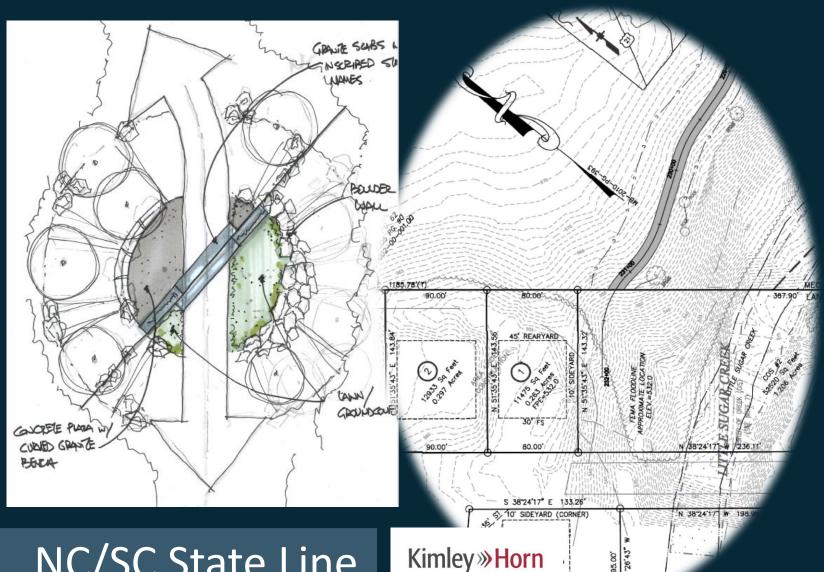


Trailhead

Kimley » Horn





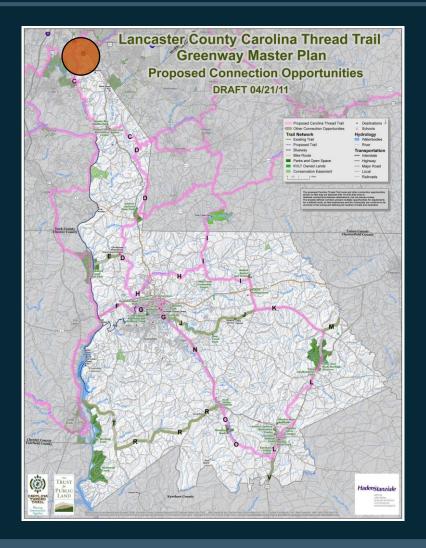


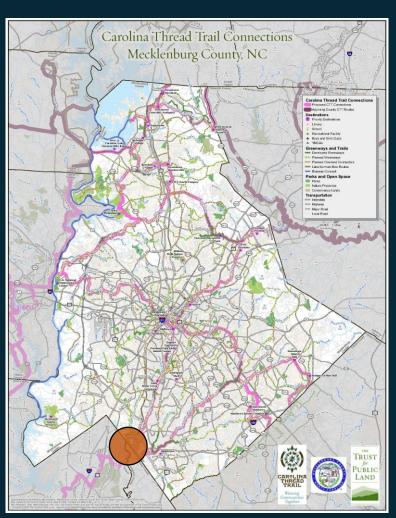


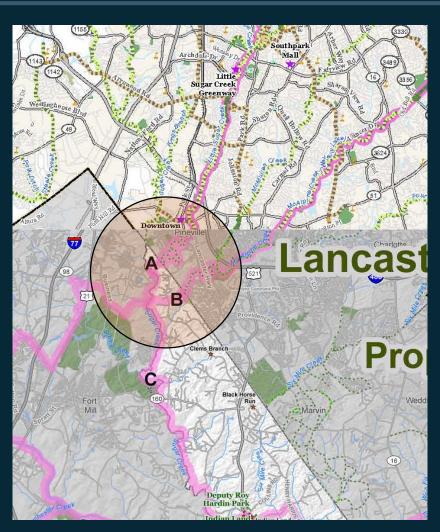
NC/SC State Line









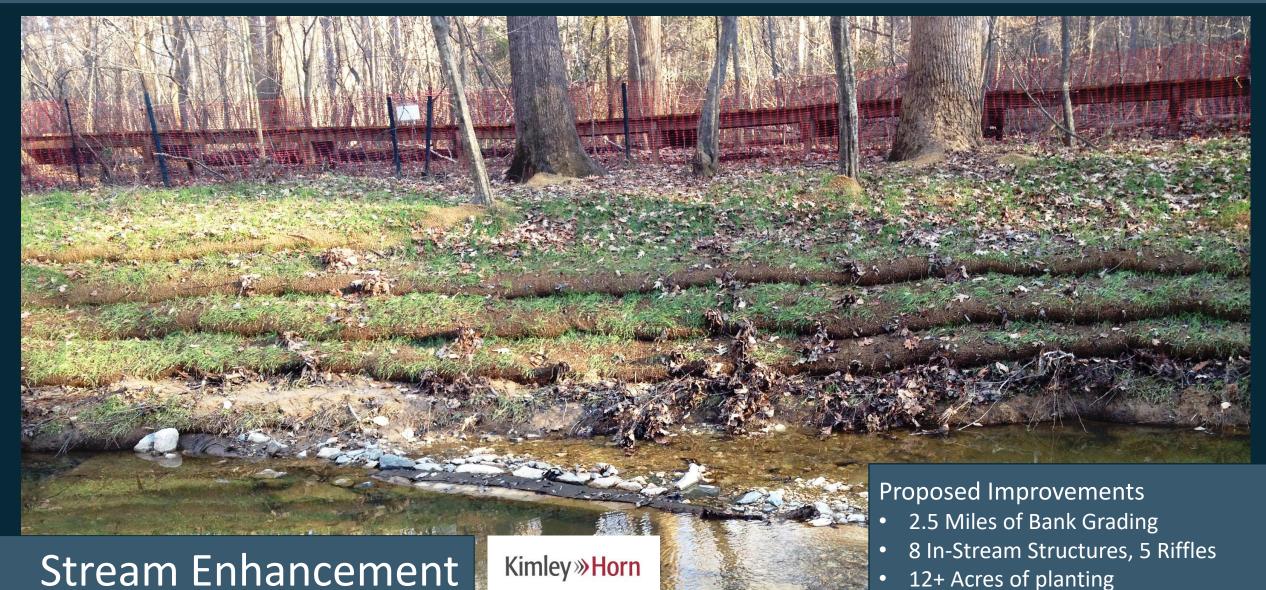


Carolina Thread Trail

www.carolinathreadtrail.org





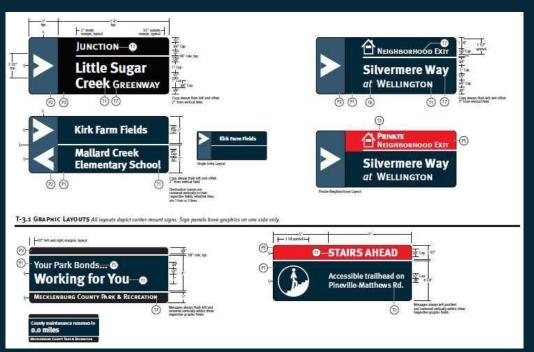


Wayfinding











Greenways and Safety





- Greenways have had the fewest issues among Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation amenities.
- A 2004 study by UNC Charlotte on our greenways found that greenways do not increase crime and, in some instances, crime is slightly reduced.
- Crime exists everywhere; Call in Emergencies 911; otherwise 311
- Park Rangers and CMPD officers patrol trails.
- Common sense prevails— if you have valuables in your car, locate them out of sight and lock the vehicle.
- Avoid the trail during floods. Enjoy walking with a friend.
- Cyclists must have lights and reflectors after dark.





Thank you for participating in your Community Workshop!



Contacts





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